

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

In reply refer to: KEC-4

October 20, 2000

To: People Interested in Idaho Fish and Game's Captive Rearing Initiative for Salmon River Chinook Salmon

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has prepared a final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Idaho Department of Fish Game's Captive Rearing Initiative for Salmon River Chinook Salmon. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is included in the document which is enclosed. (The Preliminary EA you received in August 1999 was titled "Idaho Department of Fish and Game Snake River Chinook Captive Rearing Program.")

<u>Proposal</u>: BPA is proposing to continue funding through 2002 this experimental program—a small-scale research and production initiative designed to increase numbers of three weak but recoverable populations of spring/summer chinook salmon in the Salmon River drainage. Idaho Department of Fish and Game started the program in 1995, and BPA has helped fund this program since October 1996. The captive rearing program is authorized under the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program.

<u>Additional Copies</u>: If you would like more copies of the enclosed EA/FONSI, please call our toll-free document request line: 1-800-622-4520. Leave a message naming this project and giving your complete mailing address. You can also view it on the Internet at www.efw.bpa.gov.

For More Information: If you need more information or have any questions, please call me toll-free at 1-800-282-3713, or e-mail me at nhweintraub@bpa.gov.

/s/ Nancy Weintraub

Nancy Weintraub Environmental Project Manager

Enclosure: EA/FONSI